

## **REMARKS**

### **Status of the Claims**

- Claims 1-12 are pending in the Application.
- Claims 1-12 are rejected by Examiner.
- Claims 1 and 12 are amended by Applicant.

### **Claim Rejections Pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §103**

Claims 1-12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,505,255 to Akatsu et al. (Akatsu) in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/010879 to Bouret et al. (Bouret). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Claim 1 is amended to clarify that content is located in data providers in the external network. Support for this amendment is found in the as-filed specification page 10, line 4.

Claim 1 is also amended to include an aspect detailing how the search is performed: by gradually evaluating the content descriptions of data providers and by comparing content descriptions with requested data. Claim 1 is further amended to clarify that in case a match between the requested data and at least one content description is found, the module is adapted for receiving the data corresponding to the content. Support for these amendments are found in the as-filed specification page 7, lines 27-31.

Akatsu (US 6,505,255) at col. 3 lines 30-50 discloses a home gateway 504 bridging an internal network and an external network acting as a connecting device which allows communication (routing and formatting) between a home network and an external network.

However, Applicant respectfully submits that Akatsu does not teach or suggest the elements of pending Claim 1 that include:

- the module being able to receive requests for data of the external network from at least one device not capable of independently requesting data contained by data providers in the external network, and
- the module being able to search for the requested data from at least one data provider in the external network by gradually evaluating content descriptions available in data providers and by comparing a content descriptions with the requested data, and
- the module being further able to receive the data requested.

Akatsu, at col. 9 lines 35-51 and on Fig. 23, depicts the method for routing and transferring data between the external network and the internal network. See Akatsu, col. 9 lines 33-34. Although Akatsu does disclose at Figure 23, acts for data formatting and data routing, Applicant respectfully submits that Figure 23 of Akatsu does not disclose a module that receives requests for data of the external network as recited in pending Claim 1. Akatsu at Figure 23 does not disclose a module that searches for requested data in the external network as recited in pending Claim 1. And Akatsu at Figure 23 does not disclose a module that receives requested data that was obtained as a result of a request for data of the external network. In short, Akatsu at Figure 23 teaches data formatting and data routing, but does not explicitly disclose the above-mentioned aspects of pending Claim 1.

Bouret discusses a data communication system having at least one external service provider and an interface entity for receiving information regarding offers of service by the external service provider. The interface entity is arranged to process the offer information from the service providers and to accept some of the offers and register some of those services. The interface entity of Bouret registers services advertised from providers, and then the client is allowed to choose among registered services. The interface entity of Bouret processes a request by a client to search for a previously registered and accepted service that matches the request. If a matching service is located, the

interface entity then requests the service from an external service provider. (See Bouret, paragraphs 0020, 0038, 0049).

The added aspect of pending Claim 1 of a “gradual evaluation of content descriptions” distinguishes the teachings of Bouret from the pending Claims. For example, in Bouret paragraphs 0053 to 0055, upon a match between a service-provider advertisement and a client, the request of service from the client is forwarded to the service provider and a response is provided to the client from a service provider entity. By contrast, in the pending claims, the module performs the search by comparison and by finding a match between the requested data from the client and the contents available at data providers. Whereas Bouret posts registered services for clients, and clients then request those registered services, the pending claims indicate that clients search for data on an external network and the module performs a comparison.

Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that the interface entity of Bouret acts to receive and register offers of service from the offering service providers. The interface entity filters information requests from internal clients. The client choice is restricted to the offers that are accepted and registered by the interface entity. This action is different from the action recited in amended pending Claim 1 which recites “the module being able to search for the requested data from at least one data provider in the external network by gradually evaluating contents descriptions available in data providers and by comparing the contents descriptions with the requested data”. Whereas in Bouret, a service provider offers a service and the interface entity decides whether to accept the service and register it and a client search is conducted within the interface entity, in the pending claims, a search is initiated by a client device and the search is performed by gradually evaluating content descriptions available in data providers and by comparing the content descriptions with the requested data.

Whereas Bouret uses the interface entity to internally perform a match of client requests with previously registered services offered by external service

providers, pending Claim 1 recites a module that is able to search for the requested data from at least one data provider in the external network by gradually evaluating contents descriptions available in data providers and by comparing the contents descriptions with the requested data. Thus, the operational actions of Bouret are different from the functions of the module of amended pending Claim 1.

Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that the combination of Akatsu and Bouret fails to teach or suggest the Claim 1 aspects that

“the module being able to receive requests for data of the external network from at least one device not capable of independently requesting data contained by data providers in the external network”, and

“the module being able to search for the requested data from at least one data provider in the external network by gradually evaluating contents descriptions available in data providers and by comparing the contents descriptions with the requested data”.

Since the combination of Akatsu and Bouret fails to teach or suggest all aspects of independent Claim 1, then the combination of Akatsu and Bouret cannot render obvious pending Claim 1 under 35 USC §103(a) as well as their dependent Claims 2-12 per MPEP §2143.03. Thus, all pending claims patentably define over the cited art.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 USC §103(a) rejections on Claims 1-12 in light of the arguments presented above.

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## **Conclusion**

Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims patentably define over the cited art and respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of all rejections of the pending claims in a continuing examination. Applicant suggests that since the pending claims patentably define over the cited art, that reconsideration be provided for a Notice of Allowance of all pending claims.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 07-0832 therefore.

Respectfully submitted,  
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